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KONEV'S MEN REACH GRUNBERG ON ODER IN DRIVE ON BERLIN

Effect a Weak Junction There With Left Wing of Marshal Zhukov's Forces

Domei

BERLIN, February 15.—The northern wing of Marshal Konev's 1st Ukrainian Army frantically pushing northward toward the central Oder yesterday advanced as far as Grunberg on the Oder southeast of Frankfurt and formed a weak junction with the left wing of Marshal Zhukov's forces still preparing for the thrust toward Berlin.

Konev's other spearhead which stretched to Autobahn on both sides of Forst on the Neisse River, tributary of the Oder, due south of Frankfurt and east of Kottbus, meanwhile, was isolated by vicious German tank slashes at Sorau and annihilated.

Field dispatches said that two powerful German tank formations in an unexpected counter-blow manoeuvered behind the Soviet spearhead and struck into the flanks of the thin line from the north and south in the area of Sorau and joined forces in the northern part of the city. Last Soviet resistance in the city was wiped out during the process and completely isolated Konev's extended spearhead.

On the central Oder, meanwhile, Soviet armies standing due east of Berlin are still marking time and yesterday were unable to expand their present footholds or establish fresh bridgeheads across the river. North of Grunberg up to Kuestrin, the Soviet armies are still in a stage of preparation.

The German-Hungarian garrison troops of Budapest which for the past 50 days beat off repeated Soviet attacks against the city and after completely exhausting their final ammunition and supplies successfully broke through the Soviet encirclement ring and the first several formations have already reached the main German fighting line west of the city.

In southern Pomerania, German forces continued to maintain their line despite repeated Soviet attacks. Fresh house-to-house fighting broke out in the city of Posen.

In West Prussia, Soviet troops continued their breakthrough attempts while on the entire East Prussian front 60 Soviet tanks were destroyed yesterday. This latest success raised the number of Soviet tanks destroyed in this area to 2,600 since January 12.

Situation Turns Favorable

Domei

BERLIN, February 15.—The present military situation in upper Silesia was described by the Wilhelmstrasse military spokesman as being more favorable than on the previous days.

German forces, pushing northward from Striegau, have engaged strong Soviet forces and have thrown them back into counterattacks.

Moreover, he said that the German positions in the Queis-Bober sector were held against all heavy Soviet attacks. Further strong Soviet troop concentrations were observed, according to the spokesman, west of Frankfurt-on-the-Oder and Kuestrin.

Dresden Raid Staged

Domei

LISBON, February 15.—American Flying Fortresses and British Liberators—over 1,000 strong—smashed today at targets in Germany, bringing to over 11,200 the number of planes that have raided the Reich in 36 hours, according to a London dispatch. Their target was Dresden and the attack was the closest direct support operation yet carried out by the anti-Axis air forces for the Red Army.

Today's air blows came after overnight attacks by 1,300 British planes which struck at the East Front rail center of Chemnitz and other targets. Twenty-two were lost but some may have landed on the Continent, the dispatch concluded.

Stiff German Resistance

Domei

ZURICH, February 15.—Marshal Konev's armies are meeting with stiff German resistance along its entire offensive front, but at present there are no indications that his wedges have been completely stopped. Konev's center wedge heading for Gorlitz from Bunzlau has slowed down, but greatest attention is placed on his right wing operating to the north.

According to frontline reports, Soviet spearheads between the northernmost wedge which has reached Grunberg and the other wedge striking in a northwesterly direction in the Sagan-Sorau sector have passed Sommerfeld and approaching the Neisse River further to the west.

Also the Soviet group further to the south heading for Dresden is reported to be almost upon the town of Gorlitz, but it has not yet succeeded in crossing the Neisse.

Occupation by Soviets Of Polish Territory Hit by Arciszewski

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 15.—Prime Minister Tomasz Arciszewski of the exile Polish Government in London bitterly denounced the Soviet occupation of Poland and announced his Government "will never surrender" to the partitioning decision of Poland arrived at the Crimea Conference, by the 'Big Three', according to a London dispatch. He told reporters today that his Government had no faith in Marshal Josef Stalin's words about democracy and accused the Soviets of starving and looting the Polish people.

30,000 AXIS SOLDIERS BREAK OUT OF BUDAPEST

Penetration of Encirclement Ring Came As Surprise to Soviet Forces

Domei

BERLIN, February 15.—More than 30,000 men, including Hungarian troops and Cross Arrow formations, have broken out of Budapest and arrived with their first contingents in the foremost German lines west of the town, Dr. Max Krull, DNB military commentator writes. Continuing, he says:

The breakthrough out of the ring of encirclement around Budapest was effected at a pocket where the Soviets had least expected it. They had not at all considered this possibility and this was the reason why the entire garrison of Budapest had already been reported to have been taken prisoner by the Soviets.

In this connection the case of Cherkassy must be recalled where the opponent likewise had not reported the break-out of the German forces from the ring of encirclement.

As the narrow fighting area of the Castle where the defenders of Budapest had been compressed by the Soviets had no longer offered any possibility of effecting a deployment of forces, they were forced to fight in the open field. The wounded German soldiers who could not be taken along had been put under the charge of the Papal Nuncio. The question is now whether the Soviets will resume their thrusts in the Danube sector. German quarters, however, have made all preparations for this contingency.

The Soviet command, furthermore, realized that a frontal attack against the Reich capital would be too difficult and therefore was induced to start large operations in lower Silesia. The situation in this sector is still in the stage of development and so far the tension has not decreased. Breslau has been encircled and the Soviets in a counterthrust against the German attempts of liberating the town are trying to lay another ring of encirclement. Their northern offensive thrust from the Liegnitz area is pushing farther toward the west and the Soviets succeeded in entering Sorau. Sagan which was bypassed and Glogau which was encircled by the Soviets are still in German hands.

For this reason the Soviets have still been unable to establish communication with the Frankfurt front. They are operating west of the Oder with extremely strong forces, which fact allows the conclusion that the enemy has brought up formations from other parts of the front. A special gravity center was formed in West Prussia in the Konitz-Tuchel area where the enemy had been exerting violent pressure in a northerly direction. The enemy in this sector is now confronted with violent German counterpressure.

U.S. War Spendings Soar

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—The U.S. War Production Board announced today that the total American war expenditure in January was $7,520,000,000, according to a Washington dispatch. It was also revealed that this was a decrease of 4 per cent as compared to December 1944. This makes the grand total of American war expenses since July 1, 1940 to January 31, 1945 a stupendous sum of $252,000,000,000.

GERMANS DETERMINED NOT TO YIELD TO ENEMY

Goebbels Says War Better Than Peace Forced on Us by Anti-Axis Powers

Domei

BERLIN, February 15.—"Even the worst war is better and easier to bear than a peace forced on us by our enemies," writes Dr. Joseph Goebbels, Reich Minister of Propaganda, in his latest contribution to Das Reich. Continuing, he says:

"The development of the war is still flexible and will remain so until one of the nations at war lays down arms. Which nation this will be is entirely up to us. It is true that the enemy today has a greater war potential at his command than we have, but only in the material and not in the moral respect.

"The world which the enemy represents is a chaotic turmoil of hatred, primitive revenge, deception and the mean greed of the capitalist-Bolshevist profiteers. That world has no kind of ideals. It is entirely sterile and therefore condemned to political barrenness. This will become evident everywhere—if not today then tomorrow. The betrayed nations are slowly beginning to realize this. The difference between the enemy promises and facts is so obvious that even the most stupid and naive are bound to become aware of it.

"This even cannot for long be hidden from the nations in the enemy camp. They have no war aim worth fighting for. But we have one. It is the defense of our very existence which they are threatening. A nation that is determined to use every means—even the most daring ones—for the defense of its life is practically unconquerable. Such a people can continue the war indefinitely, certainly so long until the enemy realizes that his aims are unattainable without endangering his own existence.

"This is our outstanding chance for victory apart from all the other realistic and tangible chances which remain at our disposal at the present. The enemy nations have been drained white to an extent which we for the most part do not realize. This is a state of affairs, as they will themselves admit, which they will be unable to endure for long.

"The same applies to us, yes, but with a difference: Their threats make it clear that we, should we give in, have nothing more to lose and therefore we face our war aims unconditionally and more radically than they do. If we were to believe their statements, every German could choose the manner in which he wishes to be liquidated by them: by a bullet in the neck, by deportation to Siberia, or by starvation, slavery or plague. There is no punishment, devised by their hatred, which they do not intend to inflict on us. That approximately is their idea of the end of the war. Even what they call mild in order to tempt us, is inacceptable for us. We would sooner apply the most desperate means than lend our hand to selling the life of the German people for all future, of its children and generations to come.

"If every war would take the course which common reason might figure out in advance, then history would be devoid of surprises. The contrary is true and in our position there is only one salvation: bravery! In the end bravery will not only win the laurels but also victory. Those in the enemy camp who believe that the blows raining down on us have stunned us are wrong. We wipe the blood out of our eyes and again face the enemy unflinchingly and fearlessly. Let us forge and wield our weapons in this last decisive battle. This battle is our big chance."

U.S. Loses 261 Ships

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—The U.S. Navy Department released today the figures of naval losses to date and including the recent loss of the aircraft carrier Ommaney Bay in the Philippine waters and said that the total is 261 vessels as follows: one battleship, 10 aircraft carriers, six heavy cruisers, three light cruisers, 54 destroyers, seven destroyers escorts, 37 submarines and 143 miscellaneous vessels, according to a Washington dispatch. The figures include ships sunk, destroyed, presumed lost or overdue, it was further disclosed.

Cabinet Meeting Held

The Cabinet met in a regular session at 10 a.m. Friday at the Prime Minister's official residence and discussed various pending questions. The meeting adjourned at noon.

STALIN'S SHREWDNESS EMPHASIZED IN LONDON

Roosevelt Failed in Attempt to Give Lemberg to Poland, Is General Belief

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 15.—The New York Times' London correspondent wrote today concerning the outcome of the Polish question during the Yalta talks that it was felt among 'diplomats' in London that Marshal Josef Stalin had demonstrated "pretty shrewd statesmanship" again. President Roosevelt, it said, tried his best at Yalta to get Stalin to agree to let reconstituted Poland keep at least Lemberg. He failed because Lemberg lies a considerable distance to the east of the line agreed upon by the three as the Russo-Polish frontier.

Stalin demonstrated pretty shrewd statesmanship, the correspondent added, for Stalin by his insisting on the recognition of the Soviet's legal right to Lemberg has gained for himself a chance to make a gesture to the new Government.

The correspondent believed it unlikely that the nationality of the people of Lemberg who are predominantly Polish has yet been finally settled for it seems likely that the Crimea Conference agreed upon some secret protocols.

Among the Poles in London there is a great deal of confusion and uncertainty and the Archewiskie Government has flatly refused to have any part in the Yalta commitment. However, the Peasant Party of former Premier Mikilajczyk appears unanimously in favor of cooperation with the proposed solution of the Russo-Polish issue. It is learned also that he had a conference with Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden just before he left for the conference.

AMENDS WAR RESOLUTION

Soviets Force Change in Anti-Japan Pledge at Trade Union Talks

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 15.—At the request of Kuznetsov, leader of the Soviet delegation, the resolution before the World Trade Union Conference calling for "the prosecution of the war against Japan" was amended after it had been presented to the conference as an unanimous recommendation of the Committee concerned, according to a London dispatch.

The sentence as amended and unanimously accepted by the conference now reads: "War against Japan must be prosecuted by the nations at war with her with the same vigor as the war in Europe until unconditional surrender is wrested from her as well."

The original draft had been agreed to by two Soviet members of the committee.

Canadian Cruiser to Pacific

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 14.—A BBC broadcast from London today revealed that the 8,000-ton Canadian cruiser Uganda will join the British fleet operating in Pacific waters. The Uganda, constructed in 1942, is armed with 12 six-inch caliber guns, eight four-inch anti-aircraft guns and 16 other guns of small caliber.

U.S. LOSSES MOUNTING, STIMSON REPORT BARES

394,874 Casualties Admitted On West Front Between June to February

Domei

LISBON, February 15.—The U.S. Army ground forces on the Western Front lost 394,874 men from D-day last June to February 1, U.S. Secretary of War Henry Stimson announced today, according to a Washington dispatch. In making this report, Stimson said that 63,410 were killed, 273,997 wounded and 57,467 missing. This report reflected an increase in casualties on the Western Front of 61,962 in January, including 8,848 killed, 41,325 wounded and 11,789 missing.

Stimson reported the U.S. army casualties in all theaters since the beginning of the war as 593,342 on the basis of names compiled in Washington through February 7 and reflected combat action in the early part of January, the dispatch further disclosed.

Linked with the Navy's latest reported losses of 88,838, this puts the total American combat losses at 782,180, an increase of 17,596 since last week's report, the dispatch concluded.

5 Million Yanks Overseas

Domei

LISBON, February 15.—Major General Thomas Handy, Assistant Chief of Staff, today told the Senate Military Affairs Committee that five-eighths of the entire American army forces or more than 5,000,000 troops have been sent overseas, according to a Washington dispatch.

BACKS LEND-LEASE ACT

Stimson Wants Continuation of Program After Expiration

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—Henry Stimson, U.S. Secretary of War, appearing before the House Foreign Affairs Committee which is considering the one-year extension of the Lend-Lease Act which expires on June 30, said today that it would be "a disastrous mistake" to abandon the Lend-Lease program now with the Allied "net of steel" closing around the enemy, according to a Washington dispatch. Stimson said the Lend-Lease equipped in whole or in part the equivalent of 4,460,000 Allied troops at the cost of only 16 per cent of United States munitions production.

Stimson said, "We are at a crisis of war but not yet at its finish. It would be a disastrous mistake not to continue in full effect the Lend-Lease Act. Its extension should be accepted without delay."

U.S. Opening Army Schools

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—The United States Army evidently is not planning for a short war for it has announced that it will open two schools in Europe, one school to train sharpshooters and the other to train second lieutenants, according to a Paris dispatch. The sharpshooter's school will train thousands of riflemen and the officers' school is expected to turn out 1,000 second lieutenant platoon leaders each month in a streamlined 12-week course with the first graduation slated for late May.

HATTA, FUJIHARA MADE NEW CABINET ADVISERS

Appointees to Push Land Transport, Increase in Iron, Steel Output, Respectively

Yoshiaki Hatta, former Transportation and Communications Minister, and Ginjiro Fujihara, former Munitions Minister, have been appointed advisers to the Cabinet, the Board of Information announced at 6 p.m. on Thursday.

Incidental to the appointments, Mr. Hatta has been named Administrative Inspector by Imperial nomination to carry out the 12th administrative inspection designed to increase land transport by smaller vehicles while Mr. Fujihara is expected to engage in the important duty of increasing production of iron and steel, the announcement added.

The appointment of new Cabinet Advisers had been under contemplation of the Government ever since the death of Admiral Nobumasa Suetsugu, Cabinet Adviser, and with the two new appointments, the Cabinet Advisers now total 14.

Mr. Hatta is a graduate of the Construction Department of Tokyo Imperial University and had been long engaged in active railway construction works as technician and engineer before he was appointed Railways Vice-Minister in 1926. He was made a member of the House of Peers in 1929 by Imperial Nomination and in the following year, assumed the vice-presidency of the South Manchuria Railway Company.

Mr. Hatta became Overseas Minister in October, 1938 in the first Konoye Cabinet and in the following year, was appointed Commerce Minister and concurrently Overseas Minister in the Hiranuma Cabinet. Later, he became President of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry and then the first President of the Imperial Petroleum Company. He was Railways Minister in the Tojo Cabinet from December 3, 1941, till the Cabinet's resignation in July, last year.

Mr. Fujihara was a newspaperman for some time after his graduation from Keio University in 1889 and then was with the Mitsui Concern until 1911 when he joined the Oji Paper Manufacturing Company.

Mr. Fujihara was named a member of the House of Peers in 1929 and founded the Fujihara Institute of Technology in 1930. He became Commerce Minister in January of the following year in the Yonai Cabinet and then the first President of the Industrial Equipment Corporation in December, 1941. He was appointed Cabinet Adviser in March the following year with the inauguration of the Cabinet Adviser system. During his tenure of office, he headed three Administrative Inspection Missions. He was Minister Without Portfolio in the Tojo Cabinet and was appointed Munitions Minister with the formation of the Koiso Cabinet. In December last year, he was replaced by Shigeru Yoshida as Munitions Minister on account of illness.

MAY EASE PEACE TERMS

Domei

LISBON, February 15.—Some relaxation of the Italian armistice terms and a possible inquiry by President Roosevelt into arrangements for the relief of French civilians were indicated today by continental dispatches, according to a London dispatch.

A joint British and American statement announcing the easing of the Italian armistice terms to the extent of giving greater economic aid to Italy and the lifting of some anti-Axis administrative controls was reported in the offing, the dispatch added.

The best available information in Paris was that Roosevelt had not yet reached France, although a Paris broadcast said that the President on his way back from the Crimea Conference was reported by the Marseilles press "to have made a short stay" at some Mediterranean port.

Roosevelt was expected to visit Italy on his return trip, according to a news story from Paris passed by the anti-Axis censorship last night, the dispatch further disclosed.

France Mum on Meet

Special to the Nippon Times

STOCKHOLM, February 14.—The French Provisional Government has not yet issued any official announcement if it will participate in the United Nations World Security Conference which will be held in San Francisco on April 25, despite the fact that the Chungking Government has accepted the invitation, according to a Paris report received here.

10 B-29's Raid Shonan; 6 Damaged, 1 Downed By Japanese Air Units

Domei

SHONAN, February 16.—Japanese Air Interception Units pursued and damaged seven (whereof one was most probably shot down) of the 10 B-29's that raided the Shonan area yesterday.

ENEMY'S REAR ATTACKED BY JAPANESE IN MANILA

Blast Yanks Equipment and Return Safely; Americans Bomb Hospitals, Churches

Domei

PHILIPPINE BASE, February 15.—A Japanese Raiding Unit attached to the Landing Party headed by Warrant Officer Akiho Kumagai carried out bayonet charges deep into the enemy rear in the Manila area at midnight on February 9, in furious surprise-attacks. On the occasion, they killed more than 10 enemy officers and men as well as blasting various war equipment and returned safely.

Blind-Raids Luzon

By Y. YOSHIMURA

Of the Military Press Corps

PHILIPPINE FRONT, February 14.—Irritated over the slow progress of the war situation in the Philippine area, the enemy air force based on Leyte and Mindoro islands and deck-planes of task forces have been bombing Luzon Island day in and day out, destroying Catholic churches and Red Cross hospitals.

When the Filipinos saw the brutal American airmen shelling churches their resentment against the Americans increased. Even when they spot one Japanese soldier, American airmen drop bombs. The scorched earth clearly attests to the intensity of the enemy bombing.

The enemy planes appeared over Batangas on February 4 to cover the move of the paratroops which had landed there, and increased activities have been witnessed over the southern sector of Batangas and the Manila area from February 7. Over Manila City, enemy aircraft have been appearing constantly to aid the land forces. Against the Japanese who are guarding the height near Bamban, west of Clark Field, formations of some 30 to 80 enemy planes have been making daily raids. The group of enemy airdromes around San Fabian on the coast of Lingayen Bay, which was rendered unusable for sometime due to heavy rain, have again been put into use since February 9. While making reconnaissance flights over Japanese positions and constantly carrying out machinegunning and bombing attacks, the enemy air force based in the San Fabian area bombed a Catholic church on February 10. Several nuns there are reported to have been either killed or wounded by the brutal conduct of the enemy air force. Eight bullet marks clearly visible on the Red Cross mark are a testimony to the atrocious bombings carried out by American airmen.

ARAB MEETING IN CAIRO

7 Nations Plan to Form Single Political, Economic Unit

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—Government officials, delegates and observers representing the major portion of the Arabic world gathered in Cairo to begin conferences today, designed to mold individual Arab nations into a single political and economic unit, according to a Cairo dispatch. Delegations were sent by seven Governments; namely,—Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, Trans-Jordan and Yemen, all independent States. Additionally Palestine, which is under the British mandate, has a delegate.

Blueprint for a Pan-Arab Federation was drawn up last October at Alexandria and the main objective of the present meeting is to embody the Alexandria protocol into a formal instrument of policy, the dispatch further disclosed.

Chungking's New Policy

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—Chungking's new economic policy is attracting wide attention in United States trade circles because of the possibilities it offers of trade with the postwar China market, the Oakland Tribune leader stated today, according to a New York dispatch. It believed that the announcement of the new policy in Chungking is indication that that market will become a future certainty, but more important than it was in the prewar extraterritorial days.

YANK TASK FORCES APPEAR IN WATERS OFF JAPAN PROPER

Carrier-Borne Planes Raid Airfields in Kanto, Shizuoka Prefecture in Waves

IMPERIAL HEADQUARTERS COMMUNIQUE
6:20 p.m., February 16

"1. Powerful enemy task forces appeared in our neighboring waters and with their carrier-borne planes principally attacked our airfields in the Kanto district as well as Shizuoka Prefecture in waves from about 7 a.m. up to shortly after 4 p.m. on February 16.

"Counterattacking the enemy raiders over various places, our Anti-Air Raid Forces obtained considerable war results.

"2. An enemy fleet comprising 30-odd warships including battleships and aircraft carriers directed bombardment on Yiojima from early morning of February 16."

17 B-29's Damaged

Japanese Anti-Air Raid Forces damaged 17 B-29 bombers in the counterattacking battle with about 60 Mariana-based U.S. planes that raided Nagoya, Hamamatsu as well as Shizuoka and Miye prefectures on the afternoon of February 15. One Japanese plane failed to return.

Bomb Factory Centers

About 60 Mariana-based B-29 bombers attacked Nagoya, Hamamatsu, Shizuoka, and Ujiyamada for one hour and a half from 1:20 p.m. on February 15.

The main strength of the enemy formations bombed factory centers as well as other areas in and around Nagoya City while a part of them raided Shizuoka and Miye prefectures.

As a result of the bombing, fires broke out in a part of Nagoya City while some damage was caused to ground facilities. Simultaneously, the enemy also carried out a bombing attack at Ujiyamada, but the Ise Grand Shrines were not damaged.

Lone B-29's Active

One B-29 bomber raided Shizuoka shortly after 8 p.m. on Thursday. Another enemy bomber appeared over the southern part of the Kii Peninsula at about 11 p.m. the same day. Shortly after 2 a.m. the next day, a lone B-29 bombed Kobe City.

Raiders Over Taiwan

Formations of B-24's, P-47's and P-38's each aggregating more than a dozen coming from the Philippine base invaded the skies over Takao, Tainan, Taichu and Shinchiku areas between 1:30 and 4:30 p.m. on February 14 and after carrying out strafing attacks fled southward, according to a Domei report from Taiwan.

LESS SUPPLIES FOR B-29'S

Task of Supplying U.S. Air Forces In China Said Difficult

By J. TSUTSUMI

Of the Military Press Corps

CONTINENTAL BASE, February 14.—The movements of the American air forces in China are being closely watched following the complete destruction by our forces of the enemy air base group in the Suichwan-Kanchow area.

The efforts of American forces, however, are now concentrated on Luzon, with the result that the supplies to the U.S. air forces in China have come to be greatly restricted. It is no easy work for the enemy, it is said, to keep up the supply of oil and bombs for B-29's.

The opening of the so-called Stilwell road has not materially improved the situation, while the capacity of the overland route from India has always been limited. The Japanese Forces, however, are keeping strict watch over the movements of the continental air force of the enemy.

The cooperation between the 20th Bomber Command and the 14th Air Force of the enemy is becoming evident, the latter acting as the covering force for the 20th Bomber Command, whose machines for the most part are B-29's.

Chiang Seriously Ill

Domei

NANKING, February 14.—Chiang Kai-shek has been ill with pneumonia since the latter part of January and was at one time in a very critical condition. The state of his health since then has not been as reassuring as may be desired, causing great worry to those around him, according to information reaching here from Chungking.

PLANE OUTPUT INCREASE VITAL FOR WAR SUCCESS

'Send More Aircraft,' Is Stirring Appeal Brought by Scribe From Luzon

Battling against the invaders in the Luzon Island area, the intrepid warriors of the Japanese Air Force are daily exerting superhuman efforts to blast the enemy advance, but their gallant actions are without avail unless more and more planes are sent from the homeland factories to replenish those that are sent hurtling against the invader aircraft, reports O. Gooda, a member of the Military Press Corps who recently returned from the Philippine front. His stirring appeal to the people of the Japanese home front is as follows:

"'We are grateful and sympathize with the people at home who are fighting against enemy bombings and the intense winter cold.' These words of comfort to the people on the home front were spoken to me on the occasion of my leaving the Luzon front by members of the Kongo Unit of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps before taking off on their last attack. The members of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps who are carrying out death-dealing attacks against enemy warships and transports in Lingayen Gulf always take off on their last attack with thought of their people at home.

"What must be the thoughts of these men when they meet people from home and think of the hardships which the home front must be going through? These heroic pilots are loyalty incarnated itself and they are attempting to call forth the divine wind by crashing themselves bodily into the enemy in order to pave an opening toward victory.

"In spite of their deadly crashing tactics, however, the enemy finally landed on the coast of Lingayen Gulf and has swiftly advanced southward on Luzon. He has also forced his way through the Japanese air bases at Clark Field and has invaded Manila within a month of his landing. Beginning with the Navy and Army Special Attack Corps, officers and men of the entire Japanese Armed Forces have removed the barrier of the Star and the Anchor, which had separated the Army and Navy from each other, and are engaged in the most bloody operations against the enemy as one body. The war situation, however, is becoming grave moment by moment.

"What is the reason for this? I have temporarily returned home from the Luzon front in obedience to an order by a certain Chief Staff officer of the Navy Air Force in the Philippine area who requested me to report the truth about the fighting on Luzon as soon as possible so that the entire Japanese nation will be stirred and rise up in arms. I have returned to Japan also for the purpose of discharging my duties as a member of the Military Press Corps.

"Now that I am in Tokyo, I have looked up the careers of the Navy and Army Special Attacks Corps from the beginning up to their final attack. I would like to tell the 100,000,000 men on the home front about our Armed Forces who are fighting in the midst of hardships against the enemy on this ocasion: my heart is with the loyal and brave officers and men of the Japanese Armed Forces fighting on Luzon, Mindoro, Leyte, Panay, Negros, Cebu, Mindanao and the entire Philippine front together with the Japanese residents in those places.

More Planes Needed

"One day a report arrived at the Aviation Headquarters situated in the Bamban Hills about a first enemy formation consisting of 80 warships and 2,000,000 tons of transports cruising northward in the Philippine waters and heading toward Luzon Island after passing through Mindanao Sea. As it was just before the landing operations in Lingayen Gulf, the enemy continued the most persistent air attacks against the group of air bases at Clark Field with the aim of destroying the fighting strength of the much dreaded Shinpu Special Attack Corps and other Japanese Air Units.

"Enemy B-24's, P-38's and P-47's from their bases on Leyte and Mindoro Islands, and swarms of enemy ship-based planes from task forces covered the skies directly over the Japanese troops 24 hours a day. Although in the beginning the Japanese Air Units had intercepted the enemy planes, they were later compelled to allow the enemy to fly about at will because of the need to maintain the same number of Japanese planes as there were enemy warships and transports so that all the Japanese planes could be converted into Special Attack Corps against the innumerable enemy warships and transports which continued to force their way forward. Japanese anti-aircraft guns, although numerically inferior, conducted active and deadly fire against enemy planes on each occasion. Sometimes a single shot brought down enemy B-24's, which brought citations from the distinguished artillery units from the Supreme Commander of the Navy Air Force.

"Japanese fighter planes were few in number compared with the hordes of enemy planes. The Kinshi Unit of the Shinpu Special Attack Corps was organized among volunteers who loaded the "Zero" fighter planes with explosives and crashed themselves bodily against the formation of B-24's. The Japanese pilots were, however, compelled to postpone their attacks because of the lack of supplementary planes from the rear. Thus, regardless of the courageous interception by the Japanese Air Units, the enemy's fighting will, accompanied by hatred, became more and more intense.

"With tears of gratitude dimming my eyes, I have watched Japanese planes taking off to attack, few in number, on each occasion of the enemy approach, and have stood at the airfield until they disappeared over the horizon in the north. I have also counted the gradually decreasing planes remaining in the airfield; I recalled that the air bases at Clark Field had been full of Japanese planes at the time of the Sea Battle off the Philippines. I have wondered whether it was impossible to ask the people on the home front to send more planes than they were doing; there are not enough planes even for the men of the Special Attack Corps.

"Vice-Admiral Takijiro Onishi, Commander of the Navy Air Force in the Philippine sector, was formerly a director of the Aviation Arms General Bureau of the Munitions Ministry and had endeavored to realize an increase in Japanese aircraft production. He is now stoically fighting in the midst of numerous difficulties with a restricted number of planes in view of the limited output of aircraft. A certain Chief Staff officer, who formerly held a post in the Munition Ministry, gave me the following frank opinion on a certain day when the enemy was approaching us. This revelation has been deeply engraved in my mind and I am unable to forget it. I will report the conversation to act as a spur to the people engaged in production on the home front to greater efforts for our country.

Japan Can Produce More

"The enemy landing on Luzon has confronted us with a serious war situation which has compelled us to give the air supremacy over to the enemy, just because we happen to have an insufficient number of planes. One cannot forecast when the group of air bases at Clark Field will be used by enemy B-29's and B-24's. Airplanes are absolutely necessary in this battle which we must win at all costs. Has Japan's aircraft production, which is reported to be the world's second largest, reached its limit? I say that it has not—definitely. When last year's aircraft production of various nations is compared on the production per month of one factory worker, the Schmidt Works in Germany comes first followed by America. The production output by skilled workers in a certain well-known factory in Japan is one-half of that of factory workers in America. There are some factories in Japan where the production output per worker is one-fifth or less than that of a factory worker in the United States. Is it then correct to say that factory workers in Japan are losing in the battle against enemy factory workers? Absolutely not! The Japanese factory workers are not losing in the battle.

"'For instance, prisoners of a certain penitentiary in Japan are achieving a production output greater than that of workers in Germany's Schmidt Works in spite of the fact that their machinery, equipment and working facilities are far inferior. These prisoners are filled with the desire to make a recompensation for their crimes by working for their country. A certain factory, formerly a spinning factory and having only girl workers, is achieving results equalling those by skilled workers. How is one to explain this phenomenon? Victory will surely go to the other side of the Pacific if ever a single factory worker in Japan should waste time by complaining that there are no materials, that labor control is poor, that enemy air raids are sure to come, and so on, at this moment when the nation is literally standing at the crossroad of life or death. The year of 1945 will not remain forever. It would be correct to say that only airplanes will be needed on the battle fronts hereafter. I cannot die so long as there are workers remaining idle who complainingly ask why there is a shortage of airplanes on the front when they are turning out such large numbers, because Japan still has reserve strength with which to increase her aircraft production.'"

(To Be Continued)

Gen. Baron Uchiyama, Ex-Chief Aide-de Camp, Passes at Age of 87

General Baron Kojiro Uchiyama, former Chief Aide-de-Camp to the Emperor Taisho, died of heart attack at 2:40 a.m. on February 14 at his son's residence in Aichi Prefecture. He was 87 years old. Funeral services will be held at his home in Harajuku, Shibuya-ku. On learning of the General's critical condition, His Majesty the Emperor was gracious enough to order the conferment of the Grand Order of the Rising Sun with Paulownia Flowers under date of February 14.

ANTI-INFLATION PROPOSAL RECEIVED BY AUTHORITIES

Japan Economic Federation Outlines Points Which Require Special Attention

The Japan Economic Federation presented to the Government on February 15 a memorandum on the prevention of inflation, asking the authorities to pay special attention to the following points:

1. Currency:

a) Materials and labor on one hand and enterprise funds on the other, should be adjusted, one with the other, as a measure for securing the maximum efficiency of funds. Personnel responsible for management should also be strengthened.

b) In order to meet the problem, especially from the financial angle it is necessary to rationalize Government disbursements, including advance payments; to regulate advance payments from holding companies to subsidiary factories; to strengthen supervision over company finance; and to adjust fund accommodations to munitions companies.

c) For the purpose of securing greater national savings, savings on the occupational basis and those on the local basis should be adjusted, together with the revision of the items of savings and the adoption of lotteries.

d) Improvement and strengthening of the tax system. The tax system needs revising in keeping with the altered distribution of national income. The problem of reduction and remission of taxes should be reviewed, while encouragement to war industries should be done through the distribution of government orders.

2. Goods:

a) In order to secure an increased supply of necessaries, the establishment of a coordinated plan of production is a prerequisite. In respect to food production, drifting of rural workers into towns must be prevented by strict control of the wages of casual workers in urban districts. Concentrated production, removal of local barriers, and utilization of motor trucks, motor and sailing boats are also indispensable.

b) In regard to the rationing of consumption, the method of collecting the goods must be rationalized as a condition for improving the rationing system itself. The agencies for buying up the products must be more thoroughly organized, with elasticity in operation and prices. The rationing on the occupational basis and that on the local basis require adjustment. The establishment of inspection into the rationing system is also necessary.

c) Establishment of barter for necessaries as a method of rationalizing consumption. Use of reclaimed materials to be encouraged as much as possible.

d) In regard to the important subject of munitions, proper distribution of materials and orders, are indispensable. Thorough mobilization of stocks must be carried out, while idle machines must be immediately utilized with State control over the sale of machinery strengthened.

e) Proper distribution of labor, with strict control over renumeration, providing also for casual workers.

f) Unified control over transport agencies, especially those operating on a small scale. Control over carts and wagons to be strengthened.

g) Adopting of a system of inspection into accounting, review of the system of compensations, and establishment of standard costs for sub-contractors.

ENEMY AIRFIELD RAIDED

Japanese Hit 12 Planes at New Base In N. Burma War Area

Domei

BURMA FRONT BASE, February 14.—Japanese Air Forces made a surprise night attack on the enemy's newly constructed Tamadaw airfield, in the jungles 50 kilometers west of Pakokku, and set ablaze five and blasted seven of the enemy planes parked on the ground. Considerable damage was inflicted also on the enemy's airfield facilities. All the Japanese planes returned safely.

The enemy has been frantically attempting to construct a large number of air bases in North Burma and the Indo-Burmese border area with the aim to launch a general air offensive against Burma. However, the Japanese Air Forces have been blasting each new enemy airfield instantly on discovery.

PETITIONS SUPREME COURT

U.S. Government Wants Decision On Montgomery-Ward Issue

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—The U.S. Government through the Justice Department petitioned the Supreme Court today to assume jurisdiction in the case concerning the Montgomery and Ward Company, a Chicago mail order firm, in an effort to speed a final decision on whether the Government was within its rights in seizing the company's properties in Chicago and six other cities last December, according to a Washington dispatch.

A U.S. district court in Chicago recently maintained that the mail order house is not a war industry as defined by the War Labor Dispute Act and that the President was without authority in ordering the properties seized by the army because of the company's non-compliance with the War Labor Board.

The Government pocketed an appeal with the circuit court of appeals, but if the Supreme Court assumes jurisdiction the argument before the appellate court would be obviated.

The petition said this is the first case to come before the Supreme Court involving powers of the Government under the War Labor Dispute Act and is the first in this war involving the President's comparable powers under the Constitution.

ANGLO-U.S. SILENCE SCORED

Quebec Legislator Blasts Mute Stand On Soviet 'Plundering'

Domei

LISBON, February 15.—British militarism is the source of evils, declared Representative Charles, a member of the Quebec Legislative Assembly, speaking at the session of the same Assembly today, according to information from that city.

He said that Canada's independence should be the only reply to Britain's militant imperialism. Canada entered the war in September, 1939, in order to safeguard Poland's territorial integrity, he said, but, after all she is only safeguarding Britain's rights and interests.

It would not be any surprise if the Soviet Union should gain the eastern half of Poland and swallow the three Baltic States but it is astounding that the two great allies who are credited with the authorship of the famous Atlantic Charter should remain silent and, moreover, join in this "detestable plundering," the legislator sardonically remarked. This fact proves the true nature of the "United Nations'" war objectives, he is reported to have said. Why is it, he queried, that while the occupation by Germany of Austria, the Sudeten and the Free City of Danzig was denounced as a detestable crime, silence is maintained over the Soviet Union's capture of Estonia and a large portion of Polish territory?

Precautions Against Raids

The Japan Traveling Exhibition Association will sponsor an exhibition of countermeasures against enemy raids. Various questions as to how the ration system will function, how to proceed in case of destruction from fire and such will all be explicitly answered in the displays. The first showing was held on Wednesday at 4-chome Ginza and by March 24 it is expected the exhibition will have made the round of the main streets, schools and small parks in Tokyo. Several corps will be dispatched to the districts to hold the same exhibitions.

Facts Worth Noting

Japanese Cabinet

Gen. Kuniaki Koiso—Prime Minister
Mamoru Shigemitsu—Foreign Minister. Also Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs
Shigeo Odachi—Home Minister
Sotaro Ishiwata—Finance Minister
Field Marshal Gen Sugiyama—War Min.
Adm. Mitsumasa Yonai—Navy Minister
Hiromasa Matsuzaka—Justice Minister
Katsuroku Aikawa—Welfare Minister
Toshio Shimada—Agriculture and Commerce Minister
Yonezo Maeda—Transportation and Communications Minister
Shigeru Yoshida—Munitions Minister
Count Hideo Kodama—Education Min.
Taketora Ogata—President of Board of Information. Also Minister Without Portfolio
Renzo Sawada—Vice-Foreign Minister
Iwao Yamazaki—Vice Home Minister
Hideo Matsukuma—Vice-Finance Min.
Lt. Gen. Kenshiro Shibayama—Vice-War Minister
Vice Adm. Shigeyoshi Inoue—Vice-Navy Minister
Kota Omori—Vice-Justice Minister
Megumu Fujino—Vice-Education Min.
Masayuki Shigemasa—Vice-Agriculture and Commerce Minister.
Shimpei Takeuchi—Vice-Minister of Greater East Asiatic Affairs
Kakichi Takeuchi—Vice-Munitions Min.
Sonosuke Nagasaki—Vice-Transportation and Communications Minister
Keinoshin Nakamura—Vice-Welfare Min.
Shigeo Miyoshi—Vice-President of Board of Information
Chuji Machida—Minister Without Portfolio
Admiral Seizo Kobayashi—Same

ATTITUDE OF KREMLIN TOWARD JAPAN WATCHED

Observers in Lisbon of Belief Question Was Discussed At Crimea Talks

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—There is no mention of anything concerning Japan in the official reports about the Crimean Conference but in well-informed quarters here a general sharing of the opinion that questions about Japan, above all the attitude of the Soviet Union toward Japan, were among the more important matters that came up for discussion at the conference.

Considerable importance is attached by observers who are interested in the future of the Neutrality Pact between Japan and the Soviet Union to the fact that April 25 has been fixed as the date for the opening of the "United Nations" conference at San Francisco for the setting up of a world security organization.

That day is the last day remaining with Japan and the Soviet Union for either to notify its intention of abrogating the Neutrality Pact after a year. If either party has not given notice of its intention of abrogating the pact by April 25 the treaty will automatically be in force for another five years.

Observers expect that during the San Francisco conference the attitude of the Soviet Union toward the war against Japan in the future will be clarified in a greater degree. In this connection it is recalled that the representative of the Soviet Union at the Dumbarton Oaks conference refused to sit at the same table with the representative of Chungking on the ground that the Soviet Union was not at war with Japan.

It is reported that James F. Byrnes, Director of the United States Office of War Mobilization, told newspapermen on February 13, immediately after his return from the Crimean Conference, to the effect that no special significance was attached to the action in fixing the date of the San Francisco conference. He considered that April 25 was the earliest date for the opening of the conference.

DRESDEN HEAVILY BOMBED

1,500 British Planes Raid Vital Areas at Night

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—Approximately 8,000 Anglo-American planes, more than 3,000 of them heavy bombers, carried out raids throughout Germany during the last 24 hours and a tremendous blow was dealt to Dresden, according to a Paris dispatch.

Most of the attacks were aimed at vital fuel and communications targets and the Dresden attack carried out by about 1,500 British planes last night was presumably directed in coordinated support of the Soviet troops advancing westward through Silesia.

Many Buildings Smashed

Domei

BERLIN, February 14.—Yesterday's enemy air attacks against the Saxonian capital of Dresden were mere terror attacks, stated the German military spokesman. He declared that these attacks had been exclusively directed against the center of the city and the cultural monuments there. The world famous Zwinger with its large vaults, its halls and big picture galleries as well as the Castle, the Opera and other monuments were destroyed in these attacks, he stated.

Stettinius Leaves Moscow

Domei

MOSCOW, February 15.—U.S. Secretary of State Edward Stettinius left the Soviet capital today by air en route to Mexico City to attend the Pan-American Foreign Ministers' Conference to be held on February 21. Stettinius arrived yesterday at the invitation of Soviet Foreign Commisar Vyacheslav Molotov and devoted his time sight-seeing. The broadcast said that Stettinius was seen off by the Soviet guard of honor, Soviet foreign officials and U.S. Ambassador W. Averell Harriman. At the time of his departure Stettinius stressed the amicable relations between America and the Soviet Union, saying, "I wish to see the friendly relations between both countries continue long hereafter."

Chou Accepts Proposals

Special to the Nippon Times

LISBON, February 14.—Chou En-lai, Director of the Political Affairs Department of the Communist Yenen Government, who has been negotiating with the Chungking regime to settle the military and political differences between the two parties, has left Chungking for Yenen after accepting the proposals made by the Chungking Government, according to a report from Chiang Kai-shek's capital. An earlier report said that Chou had rejected a set of the proposals during his stay in Chungking.

Fuehrer's Headquarters

February 15

After the complete encirclement of Budapest, the defenders held the city for almost 50 days against most fierce enemy attacks and superior Soviet forces. After ammunition and supplies were exhausted, the German-Hungarian garrison broke out of the encirclement ring and the first parts have already reached the first German lines west of Budapest.

Between Lake Balaton and the Sarviz Canal, the penetration which the enemy secured on February 9 with nine infantry divisions and one fast brigade was removed by our tanks in the fighting of the last few days. Apart from considerable losses in manpower, the Soviets lost 22 tanks, 166 guns, numerous other weapons, 134 vehicles and several hundred of prisoners.

North of the western Beskides, the Soviets attacked in vain between Saybusch and Schwarzwasser. Also at the newly established bolt in lower Silesia as well as near Breslau and Glogau, strong enemy attacks were repulsed by our troops. Near Striegau, northwest of Bunzlau and north of Sagan, the enemy was thrown back in counterattacks but in the Oder bend the Soviets advanced as far as Gruenberg.

Between Fuerstenberg and Oderbruch, our troops succeeded in further narrowing down local enemy bridgeheads near Wiesenau and Gueldenorf while farther to the north, Soviet attacks were warded off in several sectors.

In southern Pomerania, the bases of Arnswalde and Maerkisch-Friedland in the forefield of our front were held against furious Soviet attacks. In the city area of Posen, house to house fighting is raging. In West Prussia the Soviets continued their breakthrough attempts between Konitz and Graudenz while they were checked in embittered fighting and lost 40 tanks.

In East Prussia, enemy attacks south of Braunsberg and on both sides of Zinten remained ineffective. Including 60 Soviet tanks destroyed yesterday, the total Soviet tanks destroyed since January 12 in East Prussia has reached 2,600. Battleplanes and fighter formations attacking Soviet formations and supply columns relieved the army troops and destroyed together with the flak 59 Soviet tanks, 24 guns and 400 vehicles.

At the front between the lower Rhine and the Maas, our troops yesterday also smashed all British attacks while south of Reichswald, few local dents were sealed off. Our battleplanes and bombers in this area effectively attacked enemy supply bases and deployments during day and night. Grim fighting is going on in the streets of Pruem. Renewed American attempts to advance toward the north from their bridgehead at the lower Sauer were frustrated and fighting here is still going on while between Saarlautern and the Rhine several enemy thrusts failed.

In the western Alpine area, our troops took prisoners in a successful action at the French-Italian border while our shocktroops in the mountains south of Bologna destroyed the garrison of an enemy base and captured numerous prisoners. Repeated enemy attacks northeast of Faenza failed before our defensive fire with losses to the enemy. In the Herzegowinas, superior enemy forces entered Mostar. On the western bank of the lower Drina, our troops which have been fighting here for several days broke the enemy resistance and are now pushing on toward the north.

Central Germany with the Saxonian area, Muensterland and southeast Germany were bombed by Anglo-American terror raiders day and night. In several attacks, the city of Chemnitz was particularly hard hit and considerable damage was caused in the residential quarters especially in Magdeburg and again in Dresden where historical buildings as well as cultural monuments were destroyed. Our defense forces of the Luftwaffe and Navy shot down 59 enemy planes, almost all of which were four-engined bombers.

The retaliation fire on London continues.

Marshall Visits Italy

Domei

LISBON, February 15.—General George C. Marshall, U.S. Chief of Staff, concluded today a surprise three-day tour of the Italian front after his departure from the Crimea Conference, according to a Rome dispatch.

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Auditors: Count Yoshinori Futara, Takajiro Nozu, Esq., Shin Watanabe, Esq.
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BYRNES BARES U.S. PLAN IN CRIMEA CONFERENCE

Says America Participated in Meeting to Prevent Soviet-British Rivalry in Europe

Domei

LISBON, February 14.—James F. Byrnes, Director of the U.S. Office of War Mobilization, the first United States official to return from the Crimea Conference today gave a vivid account of the historic eight-day meeting at Yalta, according to a Washington dispatch.

Byrnes in an hour long press conference said that American participation in European affairs is designed to prevent the Soviet-British rivalry for spheres of influence and to deter the outbreaks of violence in the "liberated" countries.

He added, "Roosevelt as the chairman at the conference by an informal agreement proposed at least two of the specific agreements in the communique, firstly, declaration on 'liberated' areas which Roosevelt wrote himself and secondly, a formula for settling the Dumbarton Oaks controversy over whether a great Power should vote on a charge of aggression against itself."

Byrnes said that Roosevelt more than once brought about decisions of the "Big Three" by the use of tact and good humor.

Continuing he said, "There was no atmosphere at the conference indicating hope or anticipation of an immediate victory and instead the military leaders are planning for war involving more men than ever before."

He described Poland as a very complicated and difficult problem and proposed a solution in a compromise, and added that a new Government will be formed which is neither a London or Lublin group.

WANG YIN-TAI ASSUMES LEADERSHIP OF N. CHINA

3-Point Address Delivered by New Chairman Following Ceremony at Peking

Domei

PEKING, February 15.—Wang Yin-tai, new Chairman of the North China Political Affairs Commission assumed his duties in a ceremony held at 11 a.m. today in the large council room of the building housing the foreign section of the Commission.

After taking over the duties of his office from Wang Keh-min, his immediate predecessor, the new Chairman of the North China Political Affairs Commission addressed the members of the Commission in the same council room, outlining the policy he was to follow in the administration of North China.

He stressed three points in his speech.

In the first place he said that he would forge ahead with the work of constructing a new State with the support of high and low in the country proceeding in the work on the principle of attaching suparative importance to the State and of making it the first object of the country to win the War of Greater East Asia.

Secondly, he pledged himself to strengthen the political structure peculiar to China, based on the collaboration of the officials and people, and to make exertions toward the safeguarding of the national frontiers, stabilizing the living of the people and the expanding of productive power.

Thirdly, he promised to conduct with vigor the right sort of politics.

His speech made it plain that under his leadership the North China Political Affairs Commission will concentrate on the construction of a political structure based on the support of the populace which shall permit China to extend its fighting power and at the same time proceed with the great task of bringing about a realization of a truly strong China.

Mr. Wang, new Chairman of the North China Political Affairs Commission, later saw the group of anti-Axis correspondents in Peking, and made manifest his convictions on the problems with which North China is confronted.

In the afternoon Mr. Wang made courtesy calls at the headquarters of the North China Army, the Japanese Embassy, and the headquarters of Japanese Naval Attache in Peking.

May Drop Johnson Act

Domei

LISBON, February 15.—Leo Crowley, Director of the U.S. Foreign Economics Administration, today disclosed that the Government will present to Congress within the week a draft to abolish the Johnson Act which prohibited loans to countries which had not paid up its war debts incurred during the World War I, according to a Washington dispatch. Crowley disclosed also that the Government will present to Congress at the same time a draft asking to permit the trade bank to loan up to $2,200,000,000. This amount he said, is the minimum that the Government believes necessary.

Benes Going to Moscow

Domei

STOCKHOLM, February 15.—Dr. Eduard Benes, President of the exile Czechoslovak regime, was received in audience by King George VI today, says a London dispatch, adding that he is expected immediately to leave London for Moscow.

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ENEMY'S ASIA STRATEGY LACKS CO-EFFORT BASIS

British Fleet Said Following Tactics Independent of American Navy

Warning against undue optimism regarding the war in the Pacific, American military authorities recently pointed out the various difficulties ahead of the U.S. forces on their way to Tokyo. These obstacles are the result of operational and strategic setbacks as well as the difficulty of coordinated action between the Chungking, British, and American land forces on the Continent, the same authorities stressed, adding that the division of fighting potentialities between the European and Pacific fronts at the sacrifice of the latter is also another factor, says a Stockholm dispatch to the Yomiuri-Hochi. The dispatch follows:

Optimism regarding the Pacific War has again become prevalent due to the U.S. landing operations on Leyte and the Lingayen Bay areas, which were closely followed by the southward advance toward Manila. However, in this connection, cool-headed American military authorities in full realization of the difficulties ahead of the U.S. forces have called upon their countrymen for further fortitude and effort.

In various operational zones, the difficulty of effecting speedy actions has been pointed out. The Americans have landed on Luzon, but the most difficult and large-scale land operations are yet to come. Should the American forces be able to construct airdromes in the Philippines, communications between Japan Proper and the South, which is rich in natural resources, will be greatly hampered. However, unless the Americans land on the islands in the South, they will not be able to block Japan's communication lines.

When operational strategy is considered, it seems most natural to commence a new move in the Taiwan area. However, in view of the present war situation, the immediate invasion of Japan is hardly conceivable. The fact that the Japanese Forces have been expanding their operational zones on the China Continent must be viewed in connection with the intensification of the defense of Japan Proper. In this sense, the Americans must carry out large-scale operations on the China Continent in order to smash the Japanese Land Forces there. However, the American forces must yet travel a long and arduous path before launching grand-scale operations against the Japanese on the Continent.

America's war strategy has three outstanding features, namely, (1) naval operations centering on convoy escorting operations and the protection of landing forces, (2) operations to establish air bases following the landing of troops to secure air supremacy, and (3) perfect occupation of the areas on which the army forces land. So far, this operational strategy has been followed. On the other hand, America's strategy for the invasion of Japan is roughly analyzed as follows: (a) Extending the line of air bases by the so-called island-to-island operations, (b) thoroughgoing bombing of Japan Proper from these air bases, and (c) invasion of Japan by army forces. As a matter of fact, however, America is now carrying out the operation mentioned in item (a). Brigadier General Howard Williams, aviation commentator of The Daily Telegraph had the following to say:

"So far, the American forces have been successful in the island-to-island operation, which concentrates their strength on Japan's vulnerable points, but this operation will prove ineffective as they approach Japan Proper. Japan's inner-line strategy will be strengthened as the enemy draws nearer with the result that the Americans will be forced spread their fighting power on various fronts thus rendering it difficult for them to concentrate on an important point."

Another difficulty confronting the American forces is the sad lack of coordinated action between the British and Chungking forces. Admiral Sir Bruce Frazer, Commander of the British Pacific Fleet, pointed out on January 14 that, as the American forces in the past have followed the British strategy in European waters, so the British forces will have to follow the tactics of the American forces in Pacific waters. But, Frazer expressed doubt regarding joint American-British operations.

The fact is that the British fleet is following an action independent of the American navy. A British navy representative has declared that the British Pacific Fleet is operating under the direction of Admiral Joseph E. King, Chief of the U.S. Naval Operations, not that of Admiral Chester Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Pacific Fleet and that the British Pacific Fleet has no direct connection with Nimitz's operations against Japan.

Japanese Internees in U.S.

Miauki Kabashima, Tasuke Kajihara, Yonezo Kanja, Hatsutaro Kasajima, Ryuichi Kashima, Yoshizo Kataoka, Masagoro Kato, Ben Katsumi, Kumakichi Kawaguchi, Kingo Kawai, Tokiya Kono, Chosuke Hashihara, Chikyoku Kikuichi, Soichimuneo Kimura, Akio Kimura, Tomiji Kimura, Masato Kiyozaki, Tsuneyoshi Koba, Enjo Kobayashi, Nisshu Kobayashi, Yoshio Kobayashi, Kasanu Kodaka, Koshu Konamitsu, Tetsunosuke Koiso, Hikoji Kojima, Shigeru Komatsu, Takeji Koshiba, Sankichi Koyama, Saichiro Kubota, Gicho Kuba, Ikuzo Kuniyuki, Tetsuji Kurokawa, Gunichi Kuwabara, Torihei Kuwamoto, Kametaro Maeda, Hisahei Makino, Genichi Marui, Shozaemon Masaki, Junzo Mashimo, Konin Matano, Kakusuke Matsui, Totaro Matsui, Katsuichi Matsumoto, Kazumi Matsumoto, Fusao Matsubara, Kumaichi Matsuo, Isekichi Matsuyama, Seiichi Matsubara, Katsuichi Miho, Shuji Mikami, Yasuemon Miki, Masajiro Minami, Kanichi Minatoshiro, Minoru Misaka, Mitsuru Mito, Isuke Miseri, Gempei Miura, Shiichi Miura, Nobejiro Miwa, Tadashi Miya, Takeo Miyashiro, Chosaku Miyashirojima, Umeo Miyashirojima, Yonezo Miyashirojima, Kyoichi Miyata, Shigeki Mizumoto, Kizaemon Momii, Kamegoro Momiyama, Takeshi Morita, Masao Murai, Minoru Murakami, Kuro Murase, Charles Nagai, Eizo Nagakura, Seiki Naito, Gimpachi Nakama, Hidekichi Nakamoto, Koichi Nakamura, Koichiryu Nakamura, Hozui Nakayama, Tsunekichi Namba, Shirokichi Namikawa, Shikao Niino, Toraki Ninomiya, Yoshifusa Nishida, Kakujiro Nishiki, Isamu Noguchi, Kijuro Nomura.

Soichi Obata, Hakuai Orita, Koichi Ogi, Tsuneki Oi, Yoshizo Oikawa, Suekichi Oga, Saichiro Okada, Sakuichi Okada, Chuji Okamoto (also called Masaki Yamamoto), Toshikazu Okamura, Genzo Okawa, Shotaro Onishi, Kan Ooka, Isaku Orita, Zensaburo Osada, Hachiro Ozaki, Sawajiro Ozaki, Masukichi Sakano, Michio Sakano, Ryuichi Saiki, Haruto Saito, Koji Saito, Hisasaburo Saito, Rinzo Saito, Kuichi Sakamoto, Masaichi Sakamoto, Atsuo Sakimizuro, Shinri Sarashina, Giichi Sasaki, Yoshinobu Sasaki, Takashi Sasame, Kiyoshi Saito, Taichi Saito, Yazo Saito, Kinzo Saigusa, Kamejiro Saito, Hideyuki Serizawa, Toshisuke Shibata, Juzo Shigekane, Aisuke Shigekuni, Osuke Shigemoto, Kakuro Shigenaga, Harry Shimamura, Hanzo Shimokawa, Masaichiro Shinoda, Kichinojo Shirai, Miyuki Sogabe, Sansaburo Sonoda, Yasuo Suga, Toru Suganuma, Daizo Sumida, Asakichi Suzuki, Kakutaro Suzuki.

Yojo Taira, Kenkichi Takahashi, Rien Takahashi, Shutaro Takakuwa, Junsaku Takamura, Kazuichi Takanishi, Renichiro Takehara, Hikoju Takemoto, Muneyoshi Takeshita, Taro Takeuchi, Yoshiro Takizawa, Kenji Tanabe, Tamaichi Tanaka, Tomikuma Tanaka, Kamero Tanioka, Shizuma Tanji, Hisahiko Teraoka, Heitaro Tarazawa, Goki Takiguchi, Setsugo Togioka, Hiromi Tojo, Jinshichi Tokairin (Shoji?), Ushichiro Tokumi, Gagi Tokushi, Kazuo Tomida, Tetsuo Toyama, Setsuzo Tomida, Akira Tsujita, Shunichi Tsujiuchi, Nobukazu Tsutsumoto, Saburo Uehara, Kyoichi Ueda, Shutetsu Uenohara, Ichiro Wada, Yoshiharu Wakamatsu, Saneji Wakayama, Hiroyoshi Wakimoto, Genki Watanabe, Ittetsu Watabetadao, Yoshio Yatanabe, Carl Watanabe, Tomokichi Yamada, Zenji Yamaguchi, H. Frank Yamamoto, Yoshizo Yamamoto, Keikai Yamazato, Honzo Yanagizawa, Kichisuke Yoda, Seiichi Yokota, Ryozen Yonahara, Zentaro Yoshikawa, Rikimatsu Yoshioka.

Kooskia Internment Camp

Those who were being interned at the Kooskia Camp in Idaho State follow:

Shiro Abe, Michiyoshi Akimoto, Akiyama, Shibsuke Aragaki, Shosuke Endo, Ginichi Fujii, Saiki Goya, Hitoshi Hanamoto, Takuzo Hara, Tome Haraguchi, Haruo Hayashi, Matsu Hiyoshi, Hisasaburo Higashi, Kiyotaro Higo, Yoshio Hino, Hitoshi Hoshiko, Shotaro Iizuka, Unosuke Ikegami, Torajiro Imahashi, Toshisaku Imamoto, Hisahi Imamura, Yoneji Imamura, Rokuro Inoue, Jinjiro Inuzuka, Kazuyoshi Ishima, Ichimatsu Ishizaki, Fumiharu Iwatani, Tetsuzo Iwazumi, Masataro Kagawa, Mantaro Kage, Keiji Kashima, Toyomatsu Kashima, Sancho Kamezaka, Yusaku Kaniyashiki, Tomosaburo Kato, Tadao Kawahara, Keiichi Kawanaka, Rinosuke Kochi, Kisaku Kihara, Goro Kishiki, Riichi Kinukawa, Harusaburo Kishida, Kakushi Kiba, Naokichi Kobayashi, Toshiyo Kobayashi, Motokichi Koda, Takashi Kono, Toraichi Kono, Kamataro Kojima, Saneichi Kunihiro, Itsuo Kurata, Jinshichi Kurinichi, Koichi Kurinishi, Tsunejiro Kurita, Katsuhito Kuroda, Uichiro Kuroki.

Naoichi Maeda, Ryuzo Matsuda, Norimichi Matsuishi, Shichigoro Matsushita, Inao Minato, Satoru Miyamoto, Toshiyuki Miyashita, Goro Mochizuki, Shigeru Mori, Eiichi Morita, Moko Morita, Masao Motoyama, Seishichi Murakami, Kazuo Murakoshi, Toratаro Murata, Ryoichi Nagai, Haruyuki Nagamine, Hajime Nagasaki, Daihachi Nagashima, Eikichi Nakaike, Kokichi Nakamura, Kutaro Nakamura, Yoshitaro Niki, Kimpei Nishibatake, Seikichi Nishimura, Shigematsu Nishiyama, Giichi Nomura, Kigoro Obata, Minoru Ota, Ichimatsu Oishi, Isamu Okuda, Minoru Omura, Katsuji Onishi, Jinichiro Ooka, Daisuke Oyama.

Kyuzo Sakamoto, Eikichi Sakota, Kiichi Sanematsu, Saichiro Sano, Heizo Sae, Kingo Sasabe, Chuji Sato, Chusaku Sato, Ryuji Sato, Sataro Sato, Hojen Seki, Unosuke Shibata, Katsujiro Sugiyama, Kansaburo Sumi, Toshio Sumida, Bunichi Suzuki, Shunichi Tahar, Saizo Takahashi, Tei Takahashi, Kaichiro Takamura, Saichi Takenaka, Kazuo Takesaki, Eiji Tamaki, Satsuki Tanaka, Shinkyo Taira, Takehiko Teraoka, Mannosuke Terazaki, Makoto Toguri, Tanzo Toyofuku, Shohei Tsutsumi, Asaichi Uchiyama, Futamatsu Uema, Motoharu Ueda, Taiichi Ushiro, Kenichi Uechi, Saichiro Wakabayashi, Gunji Waki, Asataro Yamaguchi, Shiro Yamaguchi, Eizo Yanagi, Kaoru Yano, Kiyosaburo Yogi, Itta Yoshida, Sakae Yoshimura.

(End)

TO UP WAR ARMS OUTPUT

Domei

HSINKING, February 14.—Manchoukuo will lay stress on increasing the production of aircraft and other arms vitally necessary on the front lines while supplying Japan with basic raw materials as she is now doing, Rokuzo Takebe, Director of the General Affairs Board of the Manchoukuo State Council, declared in a press statement yesterday.

Mr. Takebe said this will be done in accordance with the plans regarding the redistribution of industries among Japan, Manchoukuo and China.

The execution of Manchoukuo's plan involves the construction of new plants as well as the transfer of factories from Japan to Manchoukuo, he said, adding, the Japanese Government has pledged to extend all possible assistance in this connection. He also declared that plans for this project were already being carried out.

Mr. Takebe said that the demand for workers will be met domestically by further systematizing the labor service corps and by strengthening the central machinery to adjust the labor supply. With respect to the financial side of the undertaking, he said that a stricter supervision in the disbursement of industrial funds is also under consideration.

Obituary

Saburo Koga, 53, well known writer of detective stories, died of pneumonia on February 14 in Okayama City where he had been receiving medical treatment after contacting a cold while traveling in Kyushu. Mr. Koga's real name was Yoshinari Haruta. He had devoted his time writing detective stories since retiring from the Commerce and Industry Ministry in 1928. In 1938 he was dispatched to south and central China as a member of the military press corps.

ENEMY ATTEMPT FAILS IN CROSSING IRRAWADDY

Japanese Unit in Burma Commended for Strong Defense Of Key Point on River

By H. HAMATANI
Of the Military Press Corps

ON IRRAWADDY BANK, February 15.—A letter of appreciation was recently issued by Unit Commander XX to a Japanese Garrison at Teumeu, a strategic key point on the Irrawaddy River, for frustrating enemy attempts to cross the river.

Japanese Forces in Northern Burma have been engaged in intense counteroffensive operations for some time with the enemy 19th Division which attempted to cross the Irrawaddy River at a point east of Shwebo and to penetrate into Japanese defenses around Mandalay. So far, the Japanese have inflicted heavy losses on the enemy invaders and successfully frustrated their attempts.

While the Japanese Garrison at Teumeu made ready for dauntless counterattacks with the determination never to allow the enemy to cross the Irrawaddy before every member of the Garrison had been killed, the enemy 19th Division advanced to the bank of the river early in January and started preparations to cross the river.

The Japanese Garrison suddenly went into action early on the morning of January 8 and a continuous, embittered struggle ensued between the Japanese defenders and the enemy invading forces which were gradually being reinforced. Although the hostile columns beat a temporary retreat in the face of severe Japanese gunfire, they launched a large-scale offensive early on the morning of January 10 with the support of several score fighters and intense bombardment.

Nothing daunted, the Japanese Garrison organized closing-in raiding squads, which infiltrated into enemy positions on the night of the same day, inflicting heavy losses on enemy troops. Further reinforced, the enemy launched devastating bombardment with mountain guns and trench mortars and started crossing the river at some other points. Teumeu, however, was the only point where large troops could possibly cross the river and, accordingly, the enemy tenaciously tried to capture the vital point. Tanks and artillery fire were concentrated on Teumeu and on January 11, enemy shells began to hit the northern section of Japanese positions while large enemy tanks joined in attacks against our positions along the Shwebo-Teumeu highway.

In view of mounting casualties, the Japanese Garrison shifted its main body to a point south of Teumeu on January 13. Since then, the members of the Garrison, organized into suicide squads, closing-in units and raiding forces, assaulted enemy positions night after night, with the result that after January 20, the enemy gave up their attempt at crossing the river at Teumeu and was forced to choose a point far in the north for crossing. There, intense Japanese counterattacks successfully drove a large part of the enemy crossing troops into the angry waters of the Irrawaddy.

Tax Law Announced

The new law concerning the increase of taxes, which was adopted at the recent Diet session, was officially announced on Thursday, and will become effective as from April 1. According to the new law, direct taxes including the income tax, corporation tax, special corporation tax and traveling tax and indirect taxes on wine and admission fees are to be increased. At the same time, along with the increase in railway fares, provincial railway and trolley service fees will also be increased as from April 1.

B-29 on Scout Flight Downed in 4th Attack Made by Lone Nippon Plane in Bitter Clash

The B-29 which appeared over the Ota and Inubo Peninsula areas on a reconnaissance flight on the morning of February 12, was attacked and brought down by Captain Tsubouchi, the pilot of a Raiden fighter plane, over the sea some 30 or 40 miles east of the tip of Boso Peninsula.

Captain Tsubouchi, at about 10 a.m. that day, was circling over Tsuchiura at an altitude of 9,300 meters. Soon he sighted one B-29 in the skies northwest of Tokyo, some 3,000 meters from his own plane. The enemy machine, which was flying at an altitude of 9,500 meters was heading for the Inubo Peninsula. The Raiden fighter sped toward the B-29 and opened fire. The Japanese plane skimmed past the enemy craft and wheeled around for another attack. Maintaining a distance of some 1,000 meters from the enemy bomber, Captain Tsubouchi continued to chase it. Both planes were then over the sea.

The second attack was carried out by the Japanese plane amid a barrage of fire. Captain Tsubouchi then maneuvered his plane away from the enemy. When the time was ripe, the Captain made his third and the fourth attacks.

Completing the last onslaught, Captain Tsubouchi turned right and maneuvered his plane 1,000 meters behind the enemy. Then, he saw a ribbon of black smoke trailing from the right wing of the B-29. In no time, two other streaks of smoke followed. The engine was aflame! The enemy plane took its death plunge into the sea.

SINGAPORE'S FALL FETED BY POPULACE IN SHONAN

Gala Functions Held Throughout Malai Commemorating Third Anniversary

Domei

SHONAN, February 15.—Gala functions marking the third anniversary of the fall of Singapore were held throughout Malai today climaxing Anniversary Week of the birth of New Malai which started on February 11 under the joint sponsorship of the Japanese Army Press Section of the Malai Military Administration and various Government organs.

At 10 a.m., the Shonan Special Municipality under the auspices of the Southern Regions Development Service Association held anniversary ceremonies at the Greater East Asia Theater attended by both Government officials and local populace. Approximately 5,000 persons including representatives of the local military administration, Malai Welfare Association, Overseas Chinese Association, Arab Association, Eurasian Club and the Indian Independence League were present at the ceremonies.

Following the ceremonies, delegates of th constabulary force, Overseas Chinese Association and the Eurasian Club paid a visit to the War Monument dedicated to the fallen Japanese heroes at Bukit Timah and also to the Shonan Shrine.

Meanwhile, members of the Malai Welfare Association paraded through the city streets from 3 p.m. and afterwards the participants assembled at the Greater East Asia Theater to hold an anniversary meeting.

The Military Press Section besides opening the New World and Great World Amusement Parks and various movie houses to the public free of charge sponsored a "campaign to send anniversary gifts" to the local inhabitants. Responding heartily, Japanese residents donated tobacco, clothing and personal effects to comfort and aid the local inhabitants.

Precints of the Shonan Shrine and the War Monument were literally overflowing with Japanese and local worshippers throughout the day, while "mompei" clad girls of the young women's corps of the Malai Welfare Association were engaged in cleaning the War Monument.

Stress Japan's Vicory

Domei

SHONAN, February 14.—Reaffirming their unshakable confidence in Japan's ultimate victory, at the same time renewing their strong pledge to fight as one with Japan, community leaders here, in special messages on the eve of the third anniversary of the birth of new Malai, paid brilliant tribute to the Japanese nation who are pursuing the War of Greater East Asia with inflexible resolve to completely crush the enemy.

Pointing out that the anniversary observance coincides with the Greater East Asia victory year, Lim Chong-pang, prominent Chinese leader, in his message reiterated that victory comes only to those who strive and sacrifice. Thus exhorting his countrymen to even greater efforts, the Chinese leader added, "The greater the exertion, the greater will be the achievement. Along these lines, then, let us, all Asiatics, exert our efforts for the common cause."

Mohammed Hassan President of the Malai Welfare Association, declared that this day serves to remind his people of their present free status compared with their previous lot as "an exploited mass of seventy millions working aimlessly with no object in view." He added, "It is with this realization that the Malais today are doing their utmost to show the world that we can play our role for the uplifting of the Asiatic people, by giving our fullest cooperation to Japan in order to achieve victory."

"During the past three years, the people of Malai have learned to absorb all that is great and noble in Japan. They have become better people for all this, and one billion strong will fight shoulder to shoulder, firmly united and confident of the outcome of this titanic world struggle," declared C. J. Paglar, President of the Eurasian Welfare Association.

M. K. Chidambaram, representing the Shonan Indians, emphasized, "On this auspicious day we, fighters in the battle for freedom and independence, renew our pledge to give Japan our all-out, unstinted support until victory is realized against the common foe."

S. M. Alkaff, leader, of the Arab community, issued a message reading, "We Arabs, united as one, celebrate this happy day with determination to contribute as much as we can for the realization of Japan's war aim."

Lauding Japan's glorious fighting spirit, Mohammed Ismail, Indian Muslim leader, in his message said, "The spirit of the Special Attack Corps is the very spirit of the entire Japanese nation. We have not the slightest doubt that victory will go to the Asiatics. It is in emulation of this selfsame spirit that one billion Asiatics will fight in order to re-establish their will and freedom in the world tomorrow."

ECONOMIC DIFFERENCES HARASSING U.S., BRITAIN

Postwar Dangers Foreseen by British Writer in Survey of Present Situation

"Economic questions must take precedence over politics since postwar dangers exist in this sphere because Britain and America cannot reach an agreement," writes Geoffrey Crowther, chief editor of the Economist, in the monthly magazine, Transatlantic, according to a Lisbon dispatch to this paper.

Without attributing exaggerated importance to these differences of opinion, so far the only solutions found have been compromises which are apt to warrant troubled relations.

To illustrate, Crowther in his article has enumerated a few points of controversy.

In regard to the monetary problem, he points out that thus far, the Bretton Woods Plan has not been ratified, either by Parliament or by the United States Congress, but on the other hand has met great opposition from both.

Relative to the question of oil, Lord Beaverbrook's negotiations at that time have likewise led only to a compromise, Crowther states, although it was America's aim to gain control of the international oil business, while on the question of rubber, opinions were widely divergent.

Regarding Lend-Lease deliveries, the United States opined that the Lend-Lease system represented merely a war measure and that there was no reason to facilitate Britain's postwar reconstruction by further deliveries, according to the article. It was chiefly at the instigation of the United States that Britain had exhausted all her resources in the service of the common cause.

In the matter of foreign trade Crowther indicated that the condition laid on Britain forbidding her to export anything that was Lend-Lease material meant an extremely severe restriction of her exports. War had brought Britain to the poorhouse while it had enriched the United States and the Americans should realize that their wartime enrichment was through chance and not virtue. Britain, on the other hand should not abuse the Americans for being proud of her might and being arrogant in her treatment of weaker countries for the British had acted exactly in the same way 100 years ago, Crowther added.

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TOKYO, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 1945

Donald Nelson's Report

The report of Donald Nelson, former Director of the United States War Production Board to President Franklin Roosevelt on the results of his mission to Chungking, the contents of which were partially disclosed by the American authorities recently, provides one of the most graphic [illegible] of the sinister character of America's new economic imperialism. This document is a masterpiece of rationalization; it provides a classic example of the [illegible] reasoning of Anglo-American imperialists who try disingenuously to conceal their profit, power and imperialistic motives under the cloak of humanitarianism and economic altruism.

In this report, Donald Nelson claims that he was successful in coordinating Chungking's economic war effort. He points with pride to the establishment of the Chungking War Production Board under Minister of Economics Wan Wen-hao to plan and correlate Chungking's war production and other economic activities. He states that two members of the staff of the American War Production Board are in Chungking to act as his deputies in further advising the Chungking War Production Board on problems of policy and operation. He reveals also that the six American specialists of the American Technical Production Mission have already begun work as advisors to Chungking industries.

But there is one fact which Donald Nelson studiously avoids mentioning in his report. That is the real reason for America's economic and technical assistance to the Chungking regime. The document cleverly confines itself to an enumeration of the successful economic accomplishments of the United States in Chungking, perhaps because, as the distinguished Florentine diplomat pointed out some centuries ago, "the vulgar are ever caught by appearances and judge solely by the event."

One of the real reasons for America's seeming solicitude for the economic "development" of Chungking is, of course, her scheme to convert the Chungking hinterland into an American arsenal for the purpose of facilitating her military advance on the mainland of China. Her economic plan for the Chungking regime possesses thus all the earmarks of a design to utilize the Chungking army as her military tool. Her attempt to put the Chungking troops under the over-all command of General Joseph Stilwell not long after Donald Nelson's mission was a naked manifestation of this sinister scheme.

Another fact which is not mentioned in the report but which is clearly implied is that the American economic succor to the Chungking regime has resulted in giving the United States a convenient pretext for meddling in the internal affairs of that regime. For instance, in the course of his report, Donald Nelson points to the fact that shifts have been made in the Chungking Cabinet as well as in the Chungking system of military supply "with a view to strengthening the war effort." It is under this pretext of "strengthening the war effort" that the United States has also managed to extend her control over Chungking's communication and transportation systems. It is interesting to note in this connection that the United States, as reports from [illegible] revealed last year, has as many as fifty technical experts on agriculture, finance, industry and transportation in Chungking who, although they were dispatched there as advisors, are actually running or supervising the economic machinery of that regime.

But a still more sinister reason for American aid to the Chungking regime is the intense ambition of the United States to prepare the groundwork for her postwar economic expansion on the continent of China. This will become apparent to all when it is recalled that Donald Nelson was sent to Chungking in the midst of the animated discussions in the United States over the problem of reconverting American war industries to the production of peace-time goods. A survey of the agricultural requirements of postwar China, it will be remembered, was made in June of last year by former Vice-President Henry A. Wallace; it was Donald Nelson's job to gauge China's postwar commercial and industrial needs, a job for which he was particularly suited since he was formerly head of one of the large-scale mail order business firms in the United States.

That China forms an integral part of America's imperialistic economic plan was bluntly disclosed by ex-Vice-President Wallace in his speech at Seattle, Washington, on July 10 of last year. The United States sees in China a new field for unabashed exploitation, a new field for investments and an inexhaustible market which will help to maintain the present artificial war boom in the United States even in the postwar era by providing full production and jobs for the American people. The American assistance to Chungking is one prompted from brazen, selfish motives; it is a scheme which is calculated to guarantee the American people large profits and trade at the expense of the inarticulate Chinese masses. In fact, Donald Nelson confesses as much when he declares that, as a result of his mission to Chungking, "a market of enormous size" is about to be opened up to the United States.

In this connection, the leaders of the Chungking regime would do well to recall the character of the United States' economic policy toward the Caribbean area and Latin America. Her investments in these countries as well as her economic assistances to them have been used frequently as pretexts for intervention in the domestic affairs of these countries. Revolutions have been frequently engineered by the United States in these countries to overthrow regimes which had fallen out of her good graces. Today, despite her avowed abandonment of the policy of intervention in Latin American affairs, it is a matter of record that the United States still continues to pull political strings behind the scenes in order to assist elements which are favorably disposed toward her in staging a coup d'etat. This policy of the United States has resulted in the loss by the Latin American countries of their real national independence and sovereignty. The United States' economic policy toward the Chungking regime, unless frustrated, may also result in the establishment of an American economic and financial protectorate over Chungking. It will mean not only the loss by Chungking of its freedom and identity but also unending hardships and merciless exploitation of the teeming Chinese masses at the hands of the American imperialists.

A Year Ago Today
February 17, 1944

The sinking of an anti-Axis troop transport in European waters with the loss of a thousand American soldiers was announced by the United States War Department.

* * *

A report of the Norsk Telegraph Office stated that 62 person lost their lives after the sinking of the Norwegian coastal vessel, Irma, by the British, according to an Oslo dispatch.

* * *

Anti-Axis air units whose brutality knows no limits again carried out a merciless bombardment on the Castell Gandolfo, the Pope's summer residence. The vandals inflicted tremendous damage on the central part of the city, attacking and bombing a vehicle fully laden with women and children evacuees. Numerous casualties were reported.

* * *

Thirty-five twin-motored United States transport planes capable of making a non-stop flight of 1,970 miles from Natal to Africa fully laden, have arrived in India from Africa in order to participate in the transportation of supplies from India to Chungking.

UNWANTED CRITICISMS

British Find Latest American Abuses Unjust and Intolerable

II

In general, how much purpose is served by painful attempts to adjust British policies to American wishes? It is plainly right to pay some price for the American policy of genuine collaboration.

But is the price we are asked to pay too high for what we are likely to get? These are questions that are inevitably asked. They can be answered only by asking two more.

How much more shall we get by trying to please the Americans? And how much less shall we get by going our own way? An opinion was expressed in these columns immediately after a recent election that it was a defeat for isolationists, rather than victory for genuine collaboration. It was not to be expected that confirmation would be so quickly forthcoming. Perhaps, the most significant event of the last few weeks has been the readiness of Senator Ball, extreme advocate of internationism, to make common cause with Senator Wheeler, unrepentant isolationist, and to threaten withdrawal from Europe, "if American wishes are not immediately complied with. Collaboration, it appears, is not a policy to be pursued in the Americans' own interest, but is reared to be offered to European nations, as long as they agree and withdraw when they are bad. If so, it is not a policy that can be relied up on. Moreover, it is important to realize that "collaboration" is universally defined in America as meaning only membership in a security council and its related organs and subscription to their funds. It does not imply anything at all about the policy to be pursued within the bodies.

Insofar as the question of policy has been raised at all in a current discussion, it normally has been to make clear that there can be no promises, no commitments and no "automatic" obligations.

In State of Double Negative

A complete victory for Senator Ball's internationalists could still mean that American delegates could go to international meetings, as Philip Guedella once said of Baldwin's Government, like inverted Micawbers, waiting for something to turn down. Nothing, in fact, has yet happened to show that the American policy emerged from a state that Walter Lippmann calls "noble negatives"—and unfortunately, negatives are of more direct practical relevance than nobility. There is still a great deal of wishful thinking in Britain even in the highest quarters to the effect that good behavior on our part will procure some great prize, such as Anglo-American alliance guarantee, specific or general, of the British territorial integrity, or at least, promising of putting down aggression wherever it may appear. It is as well to be brutally frank. There is no more possibility of any of their apings than of the American petition to join the British Empire. All that has been yet decided is that noble negatives will be uttered inside a conference room, instead of from the outside. If all other nations were of impeccable character and behavior, it is doubtful whether the present generation of Americans would promise any more. And given the rough and tumble of international life, it is most improbable that we shall get any more by trying to be good.

How much less are we likely to get by going our way? In great crises, nations see their interests clearly, and if the ultimate extremity of 1940 should ever repeat itself, American actions would be the same. No nation surely ever tried harder to keep out of the war than the United States, but to no avail. No country surely ever blotted its American copybook more carefully than debt-defaulting, appeasing Britain, and yet we were given the aid we needed. It is true that there is a great difference between Lend-Lease and cash-and-carry, but whether in some future crisis, we are offered the one or the other, will depend infinitely more on circumstances of time than on anything that it has done now. There is, of course, some risk of stirring up in American memory a resentment so fierce that after many years, it would still weigh out the manifest for national interest. But the risk is smaller than will be run by sacrificing to dwindling chances of real American cooperation, what we believe will be essential interests of our own. What then is the conclusion for British policy toward America? Clearly, it is not that any quarrels should be picked.

Quite on the contrary, every reasonable precaution should be taken to avoid giving an offense. Nor should hope, slender as it may be, of encouraging genuine American collaboration be abandoned; on the contrary it should be fostered by every reasonable means. But it is not reasonable to expect a lasting peace settlement—it will entirely collapse, if hope is disappointed—that is, to have no alternatives to dependence on America's aid. And it is not reasonable to suppress legitimate British interests, simply because they offend American susceptibilities. Let there, by all means, be continuance of policy of friendship and cooperation, and even of patience and forbearance under provocation. But let end be put to the policy of appeasement, (which at Churchill's personal bidding has been followed with all humiliation and abasement), it has brought in its train, ever since Pearl Harbor removed the need for it. Henceforward, if British policies and precaution are to be traded against American promises, the only safe terms are cash on delivery. And if the Americans find this attitude too cynical or suspicious, they should draw a conclusion that they have twisted the bison's tail just once too often.

(End)

AN ANALYSIS OF AMERICA'S POLICY TOWARD PHILIPPINES

U.S. Used Ingenious Stratagem of Dividing People—Left Farmers in State of Destitution

By CHUICHI YAMAMOTO

Editor's Note: The following article by Chuichi Yamamoto appeared recently in the magazine Chiseigaku.

II

The practical step taken by the United States in pursuance of this appeasement procedure was the reconstruction of the Philippines under the slogans of "education and fine roads," "self-rule and fine roads." The obvious objective was to divert the Filipinos from the hostile resistance and to make of them colonial subjects who place "trust in the United States" and find thereby "new hope in life." Needless to say, the program of reconstruction was accompanied by visible materialistic facilities as, for instance, the building of new roads which became the barometer of the progress of development in the Philippines. Such road-building projects were a part of an ingenious policy. They also furnished good material as proof of the "progress of Filipino reconstruction" to the opposition party in the United States.

Also by granting limited self-rule, it was hoped that the Filipinos would be satisfied in their political aspirations and thus acknowledge American sovereignty. President McKinley declared that America's Filipino policy was "not to exploit the country but to open, develop, educate, and to train the people for ultimate self-rule." This "training for self-rule," though it gave the Filipinos promise of complete independence, was in reality nothing more than a plan to reduce the islands into a state of condition where full independence was an impossibility. The substance of America's Filipino administration was to divide the country into two opposing camps by sponsoring a "self-rule structure" through parliamentary parties.

In the history of Filipino administration, the period during which the Taft Commission ruled the islands which commenced in July 1901 is the most important for it laid down the basic general policy to be followed by the United States in the administration of the islands. In this period the Filipino legislative body was instituted, the Filipinos were granted the right to participate in government affairs. Thus the Americans succeeded in directing the course of Filipino nationalism from that of a revolutionary independence movement to a movement after legal privileges. In reality, this made some Filipinos to give support to the American method of Filipino administration. On the surface, therefore, though such round-about change of emphasis implied a long step forward in "the training for self-rule," in essence it meant the indefinite postponement of true independence. The parliamentary system which has for its obvious object "the providing of opportunity for exchange of opinions in an assembly, participation in legislation, and to submit and make laws which legislators consider essential," was a sop to satisfy the inhabitants of their desire to share in political activities and also a convenient channel of observing directly the trend of public opinion in the islands. Also it answered America's purpose of suppressing the development of a united independence movement by setting up in opposition various political parties.

Policy Was Satisfactory

It can be said that the result of such conciliatory policy was quite satisfactory to the United States. Besides rendering powerless all movements in the islands toward complete independence, the policy secured men like Quezon, Osmena and others of the wealthy governing classes as pro-American supporters.

One may fairly conclude then that America's aim in its Filipino administrative policy was principally to win over the governing stratum by conciliatory measures. Before such delusive conciliatory policy even the Filipinos, who had tenaciously fought for national independence over a period of centuries, had to acknowledge defeat. The 300 years of "Europeanization" under Spanish sovereignty had changed the Oriental spirit of the ruling stratum so much so that the independence aim which they cherished was not the establishment of a nation in an Oriental sense. Their conception of an independent state contained none of the high Oriental ideals of "countering firmly against foreign aggression," and "regeneration and protection of Asia." What they had sought after was merely the acquisition of self-rule based in Occidental concepts of liberty, individualism, and democracy.

The ruling stratum of the Philippines got their ideas of Occidental democracy through Spain; but it was American democracy in particular that focalized it to a point where individualism and democracy became degenerative rather than a blessing to the nation.

The United States had hoped that by winning over the governing stratum, the whole of the Philippines would come under the influence, thus neglecting the majority agrarian population; but such a policy was destined to failure. Since the slighted masses constitute the formative element of the Filipino race, there can be no hope for unification and independence of the race unless they share whatever prosperity the islands may enjoy and their status is improved and advanced. Though on the surface Christianization and Spanish culture had made inroads into the life of the Filipino masses, is the influence deep-rooted sufficiently to enable the Occidental concept of freedom, individualism and democracy to direct the agrarian masses to prosperity, to make of them self-sacrificing individuals who are ready to volunteer service, loyal to family ties, industrious in rice cultivation, cooperative in communal life, and to place absolute reliance in their leaders for the sake of the order and defense of the land? It is doubtful that with the conditions as they are, European principles can really guide the Filipinos to a life which is Asiatic in standard.

Improvement of Agriculture

How then can the agrarian stratum be improved and advanced? It is needless to reiterate that the cardinal principle of true Filipino administration and life should find its source in traditions intrinsically Asiatic in origin. One of such principles is the improvement of the agricultural industry itself. In this paper I shall confine my recommendations to this factor alone.

Through the establishment of a prosperous agricultural industry, the livelihood of the agrarian class should be assured. To re-establish a healthy agricultural society, it is necessary above all else to relieve the farmers of their present poverty and to remedy the present method of small tenancy. Among the various causes of the present poverty of the agrarian population are: (1) the subdivided fields which are too small to provide healthy sustenance; (2) the primitive methods of farming; (3) and the serf-like relation between the landlords and tenants. These existing conditions are all directly due to the fact that the Spanish and American policies have both neglected to improve the welfare of the farming classes.

One distinct feature of Spanish administration was to unite religion and politics. Accordingly, the Catholic Church in the Philippines was not only the center of religion but also that of politics and economics.

Great authority was exercised by the friars of the various monastic orders. At Manila and in the outlying districts, they held all sorts of important political posts. In the course of time, while exercising this authority, the Church orders became wealthy feudalistic landlords. Against the ignorant native farmers, they were despotic tyrants and swindlers. The anti-Spanish revolution which eventually broke out, therefore, may be said to have been in reality an uprising of the agrarian population against the monastic orders, an agrarian revolution in other words.

Under the Spanish rule a large part of the arable land in the Philippines was in the hands of the Catholic Church. Its area was said to have been 460,000 acres or one-tenth of the land under cultivation in the islands. And they included the most fertile regions in the archipelago. The political power possessed by the friars was in all available instances exercised to accumulate more land, thus to enlarge the scope of the power of the Catholic Church in the islands.

Thus, at the basis of the independence rebellion against Spain was the desire of the agrarian people to free themselves from the feudalism of the Church, to escape from the life of serfdom imposed on them, and to gain for themselves the right to the land which they tilled with their own hands. The reason why the independence movement of a similar nature had existed even after the United States had taken over the administration of the islands is due to the fact that the condition of the agrarian classes had not been improved under the new ruler.

A law was passed by the United States for the disposal of the land owned by the various monastic orders, but the settlement of the problem was not attempted by negotiating directly with the Filipinos themselves but it was a result of the Paris Peace Treaty in which it was stipulated that the United States would protect the various monastic orders. The Filipinos were for the confiscation of the church-owned lands and redistribution of them to the natives. One section of public opinion in America also supported this view; but the American Government purposely did not give countenance to these suggestions. It purchased the properties of the Church for about $7,240,000. The land thus purchased was not redistributed among the natives unconditionally but was sold to farmers who had the means.

Real Desire of Farmers

The real desire of the Filipino farmers was the recognition of their right to their ownership of the soil which they tilled with their own hands. This desire was the expression of a deep-seated belief of the Asiatic farmers that the real owner of the land was not the friars, but they themselves, a faith that they and the land they cultivate were inseparable. Reduced o extreme poverty by the greed and avarice of the friars, the farmers lacked funds to buy the land bought by the United States from the monastic landlords. The price paid by the United States for an acre of land was $18, a price higher than the current price for the best agricultural fields. The price was far out of reach of the ordinary farmers. What happened, therefore, was that the monastic orders, after adopting individual names and establishing corporations, transferred to the new organizations the title of ownership. The transference, therefore, was only in name, the real owner was still the monastic orders of old. By other stratagems equally clever, the Church managed to retain its former wealth and power. This the United States did not try to bar.

Thus on the surface, America freed the agrarian population from feudalistic serfdom; but in reality the miserable condition of the farmers still continued. Only the tenant-landlord relation was modernized by law. The farmers were left pitiably poor as of old.

Another factor which is responsible for the poverty of the farmers is the question of the disposal of state lands. The state-land law, enacted in accordance with the Organic Act of 1902, proposed to recognize the right of Filipino ownership to lands which they actually tilled, provided that they did not exceed 40 acres. The new owners had to live on the farm, according to this law, and pay a fee of $10. Most of the farmers, however, were in such dire poverty that the $10 fee was too high a price for them and [illegible] accustomed to communal village life the terms as offered by their new rulers did not actually improve their lot. Only a few became homesteaders under the new act.

The resultant phenomenon was that in addition to the two strata of classes heretofore mentioned, another stratum, that of the landowners came into being. Their resources increased with the passing years while the remaining propertyless farmers still lived in poverty.

America's policy then, through the disposal of church and state owned lands, resulted in making the monastic orders and Filipino capitalists more powerful and richer while the tenant-farmers who had no land of their own, and farm hands became poorer and more miserable. Filipino revolution for independence, therefore, was carried on with tenacity by the agrarian population.

American statesmen who oppose the granting of immediate independence to the Philippines on the grounds that the Filipino mass are uneducated and stagnant culturally should recall that the United States is to be held responsible for this state of affairs for she had deliberately neglected to improve the conditions of the agrarian people and had not provided adequate measures to make it possible for the majority of the farmers to own the lands they cultivate. Externally, American rule seemed to have been directed toward preparing the Filipinos for independence but in substance, all things considered, American policy was directed toward making it all the more difficult for the Philippines to gain complete independence.

The United States, our enemy, is today loudly shouting that she will retake the Philippines. Her propaganda is probably being played up on the assumption that by so doing the progress of the establishment of the Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Region may be retarded or that the Filipino inhabitants may rally to their support considering as a boon the shallow material civilization; but the Filipinos today, awakened fully to their Asiatic destiny, know which way is to be their choice. To examine dispassionately what America had really given the Philippines and to direct one's attention to the essential steps for the healthy growth of the Filipino nation is the problem before us and to that end I wish humbly to serve.

(End)

BALBOA

Turbulent Career Opens Modern Chapter of Pacific History

By KLAUS MEHNERT
(From the XXth Century, Shanghai)

III

In that summer of 1513, Balboa did not yet know that the King had wholly withdrawn his favor from him and appointed a successor. But through a letter from Spain, probably written by Zamudio, he was acquainted with the fact that his affairs stood badly at Court. He had to reckon with the possibility that the next ship might already demand his dismissal and arrest. His only hope for salvation lay in an achievement great enough to regain him the confidence of his king: the march to the other coast. Fortunately for him, 150 men and provisions had just arrived from Espanola. Balboa hesitated no longer. On September 1, 1513, he started out on his historic expedition.

During the years he had spent on the Tierra Firme, Balboa had accumulated a sufficient number of reports on the geography of the isthmus to know whence he would have the best chance for traversing it. With some 190 Spaniards and hundreds of natives, he sailed along the Caribbean coast to the country of the cacique Careta, doubtlessly because he knew that here the isthmus was especially narrow and because he could reckon on friendly support on the part of his father-in-law's tribe. It was from here that he began his march on September 6.

Traversing the territory first of friendly, then of hostile Indians, Balboa led his band under unutterable difficulties over the ridge of the Cordilleras. Some of his men were incapable of carrying on and were left behind on the way in an Indian village. One of the chieftains had told Balboa about a mountain from the summit of which one could see the ocean on the other side. It was this mountain which he was approaching with the handful of men still with him amounting to barely seventy. For the dramatic events which now followed, and for the historic moment when the first European saw the Pacific from America, we shall let the chronicler Oviedo speak. Arriving nine months later in the Tierra Firme from Spain, he made use of eyewitness reports in his description, which we have translated below:

Gave Thanks to God

"One Tuesday, the 25th of September of the year 1513, at ten in the morning, the captain Vasco Nunez, marching at the head of all those who were ascending a barren hill, saw from the top of it the sea of the south [la Mar del Sur] before any of his Christian companions who were accompanying him, and he, very happy, turned his face suddenly toward the people, raising his hands and eyes to Heaven, thanking Jesus Christ and His glorious Mother the Virgin, Our Lady; and then he knelt down on both knees on the ground and gave great thanks to God. . . . And he ordered all of them who were accompanying him also to kneel and likewise give thanks to God, and they begged Him with great fervor that He allow them to discover and see the great secrets and riches which were in that sea and coasts, and they hoped for the greater glory and growth of the Christian faith and for the conversion of the native Indians of these southern parts and for much prosperity and glory for the royal seat of Castile and for the princes thereof, present and to come. They all did so very willingly and eagerly, and immediately the captain ordered a beautiful tree to be cut and from that a high cross was made which was placed on that same spot and nigh hill whence that southern sea had first been seen . . . And he ordered also that all the persons who were with him should write their names in order that the memory of them be preserved, since they were the first Christians to see that sea; all of them sang that song of the glorious saintly doctors of the Church, Ambrosius and Augustine; a devout cleric, called Andres de Vera, who was with them, also sang it with them with tears of blissful devotion: Te Deum laudamus; Te Dominum confitemur."

Balboa, fully aware of the historic significance of this moment, ordered a document to be drawn up regarding the discovery. In it, the name of the new sea, "Mar del Sur," found its first documentary expression. Balboa himself signed first, followed by Andres de Vera, and in the third place appeared a name whose bloody luster was seen to outshine that of Balboa: Francisco Pizarro. The other 64 names followed in turn. Then the men descended to the sea.

"He arrived at the shore at the hour of vespers, and the water was low; and he and those who were with him sat down and waited for the high tide because at low tide there was much and poor walking; and as they waited, the sea rose in the view of all, much and with great force. And as the water arrived, the captain Vasco Nunes in the name of the most Serene and very Catholic King . . . took in his hand a flag and royal pennant of their Highnesses on which was painted the image of the Virgin, Santa Maria, Our Lady, with Her precious Son, our Redeemer Jesus Christ, in Her arms, and at the foot of the image were painted the royal arms of Castile and Leon; and, with an unsheathed sword and a shield in his hands, he entered the water of the salty sea up to his knees and commenced to walk saying:

Ready to Defend King

"Long live the most high and powerful monarchs, Don Fernando and Dona Johanna, sovereigns of Castile and Leon and Aragon, etc., in whose name and for the royal crown of Castile I take and seize the real and corporal and actual possession of these seas and lands and coasts and ports and southern islands with all thereto annexed and kingdoms and provinces which do or may belong to them in whatever manner and for whatever reason and title it may be, ancient and modern, of times past or present or future, without any contradiction. And if any other prince or captain, Christian or infidel, or of whatever law or sect or condition he may be, claims any right to these lands and seas, I am ready and prepared to contradict him and to defend in the name of the Kings of Castile, present or future, whose is this empire and the sovereignty of those Indies, the islands and the northern and southern Tierra Firme, with their seas, as also in the arctic pole as in the antarctic, on the one and the other side of the equinoctical line within or without the tropics of Cancer and Capricorn, according to which more completely all of this and each thing and part thereof belongs to their majesties and their successors, and as more fully in writing I affirm it will or can be said and alleged in favor of their royal patrimony, and now and in all times as long as the world shall last until the final universal judgment of all mortals."

While the first Spaniards thus stood on the eastern shore of the Pacific and laid claim to the whole ocean with Balboa's enthusiastic torrent of words, their Lusitanian cousins were fortifying their own position on its western shores: Serrao made himself indispensable in Ternate (Moluccas), and in Malacca the Portuguese were making preparations for their first voyage to the Celestial Empire. The thin but irresistible lines of Iberian expansion had reached the Pacific from two sides. It was only the width of this ocean that separated Europe from full knowledge of the circumference of the earth. In seeing the part of the Gulf of Panama which was within his field of vision, did Balboa perhaps sense that he was faced here by but a tiny part of the largest of oceans, which covers half the globe? Hardly. In view of the stage of geographical conceptions of his time, it is not likely that Balboa realized the entire significance of his discovery. The very name Mar del Sur, which he chose because at the point at which he had crossed America the range of the Cordilleras happened to run for a few hundred kilometers from west to east instead of its usual northsouth direction, shows to what hazards his conception of the world was subjected. Thus today we accord a far greater historical significance to his immortal achievement than Balboa could have foreseen in his boldest dreams.

Even our admiration for the purely technical aspect of his march has increased in the same measure in which the isthmus has been opened up geographically during the last few decades. Although Balboa's sure instinct had led him to choose one of the most favorable points for his crossing of the isthmus, the difficulties offered by mountains, bogs, jungle, wild animals, disease, hunger, and oppressive heat were still gigantic. Not to mention the thousands of suspicious natives with which the isthmus swarmed and on whom the Spaniards had to rely for provisions and guides.

The next few months provided a series of adventures. Balboa explored a section of the Pacific coast. He obtained gold and especially pearls in large quantity. He saw the Pearl Islands from a distance and eagerly collected all information the local caciques could supply him with on his blue Mar del Sur. The chieftain Tumaco told him that the sea and the coast extended without end toward the south where, far, far away, there lived a great people of immeasurable wealth, which navigated the ocean and kept strange domestic animals. In explanation Tumaco modeled an animal out of clay which looked to the Spaniards like a camel but by which the cacique probably meant the llama of the Andes. Pizarro was probably present when the Spaniards were given this unmistakable reference to Peru, the future scene of his deeds.

On January 19, 1514, Balboa returned in triumph to his capital. Less than two months later, a man by the name of Pedro de Arbolancha was on his way to the King with gold, pearls, a letter from Balboa's hand, and reports on the discovery of the Mar del Sur. By these means the conquistador hoped to gain Ferdinand's favor and perhaps even his confirmation as Governor of Tierra Firme.

(To Be Continued)